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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on February 4, 2008, Applicant(s) respectfully request(s) reconsideration.

Claims 1-8, 11-30 and 33-46 now pending in this Application.

Claims 1-8, 11-19, 20-23, 24, 40, 42 and 44-46 have been indicated as being in condition for allowance.

In this Amendment, claim(s) 24-30, 33-39, 41 and 43 have been amended.

Claims 1, 20, 24 and 40-43 are independent claims and the remaining claims are dependent claims.

Applicant(s) believe that the claim(s) as presented are in condition for allowance. A notice to this affect is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the specification due to an antecedent basis issue with respect to a "computer program product." Applicant herein amends the specification to recite a computer program product stored on computer readable media, and has removed references to signaling techniques and propagated network signals. No new matter has been added.

The Office Action objects to claims 25-30 and 33-39. The subject matter of claims 24-30 and 33-39 has been clarified to recite a security filter device. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 41 has been rejected as nonstatutory under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claim 41 has been herein amended to recite a set of instructions responsive to a processor encoded thereon that, when executed by the processor, cause the computer to perform steps for implementing security enforcement, and further to remove references to program code. The specification has been further revised, discussed above, to refine references to propagated signals. Accordingly, claim 41 is respectfully submitted as within the statutory province of 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claim 43 has been rejected as non-statutory. Accordingly, claim 43 has been amended to recite that the filter device is deployed in a computer network.

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Further, the specification has been amended to remove references to signaling techniques, to further clarify the statutory nature of Applicant's invention.

As the remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly from claims 1, 20, and 24, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered online payment being made herewith, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3735.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-9660, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

/CJL/

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